

SECTION 7.27.(b) G.S. 105-259(b) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

"(b) Disclosure Prohibited. – An officer, an employee, or an agent of the State who has access to tax information in the course of service to or employment by the State may not disclose the information to any other person unless the disclosure is made for one of the following purposes:

...

(32) To provide the report required under G.S. 105-164.14(c) to the Department of Public Instruction and the Fiscal Research Division of the General Assembly."

SECTION 7.27.(c) In addition to the report required under G.S. 105-164.14(c), as amended by this section, the Secretary of Revenue shall make a report to the Department of Public Instruction and the Fiscal Research Division of the General Assembly within 30 days after this act becomes law of the amount of refunds, identified by taxpayer, claimed under subdivisions (2b) and (2c) of G.S. 105-164.14(c) during the 2002-2003, 2003-2004, and 2004-2005 fiscal years.

REVIEW OF STANDARDS FOR MASTERS IN SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION PROGRAMS

SECTION 7.28. The State Board of Education, in consultation with the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina, shall review standards for Masters in School Administration programs to ensure that appropriate competencies related to teacher retention, teacher evaluations, teacher support programs, and teacher effectiveness are included and emphasized.

EVALUATION OF SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

SECTION 7.29. Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 115C-286.1. Evaluations of principals.

Local school administrative units shall evaluate all principals and assistant principals at least once each year. Either the superintendent or the superintendent's designee shall conduct the evaluations.

The State Board of Education shall ensure that the standards and criteria for the evaluations include the accountability measures of teacher retention, teacher support, and school climate. The State Board shall revise its evaluation instruments to include these measures. A local board shall use the performance standards and criteria adopted by the State Board unless the board develops an alternative evaluation that is properly validated and that includes standards and criteria similar to those adopted by the State Board."

PLANNING TIME FOR TEACHERS

SECTION 7.30. The State Board of Education shall report on best practices from North Carolina schools for providing a minimum of five hours per week within the instructional day for planning, collaborating with colleagues and parents, and professional development, especially within elementary school schedules. The State Board shall submit its report to the Education Cabinet and to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by January 15, 2006.

The State Board shall disseminate this information about best practices to schools and school systems across the State.